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Eric L. Maldonado

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Attorney Docket No. FUJR 18.961 (100794-11749)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Tetsuaki WAKABAYASHI, et al.
Serial No.: 09/942,314
Filed: August 29, 2001
Title: SWITCHING APPARATUS...
Examiner: Huy Duy Vu
Art Unit: 2665
Con. No.: 7745

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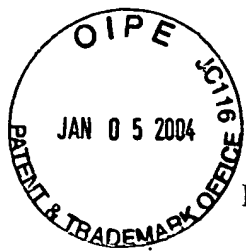
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

S I R:

In order to comply with discretionary rules 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and a copy of the document listed thereon. This document contains information in which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

As this statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action, no fee is due.

Also attached is a copy of a Partial Search Report dated November 28, 2003 from the corresponding European Patent Application. All of the documents listed in Form PTO-1449 appear in the Partial Search Report.



Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 §CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

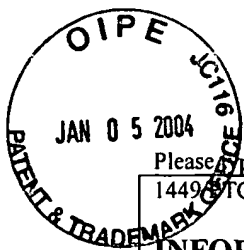
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Patent and Trademark Office

Application No. : 09/942,314

Filing Date : August 29, 2001

First Named Inventor: T. WAKABAYASHI

Group Art Unit : 2665

Examiner Name : H.D. VU

Attorney Docket No. : FUJR 18.961

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Sheet 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document	Kind Code if known ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Office ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Country	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY/Y	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		0 915 593	EP	NEC CORPORATION	05/12/1999	

Other Prior Art-Non Patent Literature Documents

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), data, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, country, where published, source.	Applicant check here if English language translation attached
		WEN DE ZHONG, et al., "DESIGN REQUIREMENTS AND ARCHITECTURES FOR MULTICAST ATM SWITCHING" IEICE TRANSACTIONS ON COMMUNICATIONS, VOL. E77-B, NO. 11: NOVEMBER 1994; XP000504589; ISSN: 0916-8516, pp. 1420-1428	RECEIVED JAN 09 2004 Technology Center 2600
		CHONG-KWON KIM, "PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS OF A DUPLEX MULTICAST SWITCH" IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON COMMUNICATIONS; VOL. 40, NO. 10 OCTOBER 1992; XP000331095; ISSN: 0090-6778, pp. 1615-1624	
		LEE, et al., "BROADBAND PACKET SWITCHES BASED ON DILATED INTERCONNECTION NETWORKS" IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON COMMUNICATION; VOL. 42, NO. 2,3,4 FEBRUARY 1994; XP000491643; ISSN: 0090-6778, pp. 732-744	
		TAKAGI, et al., "BATCHER BANYAN NETWORK WITH CELL COPY PREPARATION STAGES FOR MULTICAST SWITCHING" IEEE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ATM; JUNE 22-24, 1998 XP010290993; ISSN: 0-7803-4982-2, pp. 155-161	
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

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